

ABSTRACT

5 A tool operates with a guide system to identify the orientation of a tool  
on a work piece. In one implementation, the tool identifies its orientation with  
respect to a guide signal supplied by the guide system. In an alternate  
10 embodiment, the tool determines its absolute orientation, such as a (x, y)  
coordinate. The tool includes an action component adapted to alter the work  
piece, such as a cutting head in a router. A guide detector in the tool detects  
a position of a guide signal from the guide system. A location detector in the  
tool receives the position data and employs it to determine the tool's  
15 orientation. Based on the detected orientation, the tool decides whether any  
tool adjustments are necessary. Examples of tool adjustments include the  
following: adjusting the position of the action component, enabling or disabling  
the action component, and providing operating indicators to direct a tool  
operator's use of the tool.

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